

Tracking Your Neighborhood

DAY 2: If you are really lucky, you live on a dirt road and can find animal prints every day. But as long as you have a large enough spot with loose dirt you should be able to find some prints.

To make identification of individual prints easier you can use a garden rake and even out some dirt and wait for some animals to come through. There are several ways to go about keeping a record of the prints you find:

- Taking pictures of the prints is the easiest way. The best time to take photographs is early in the morning or in the evening, when the sun is low in the sky.
- If you find a great print, you can make a plaster cast. You'll find some instructions in the links.
- Are you great at drawing? Take a pencil and try to copy the print on paper.

However you go about, it I would love to see what you have found.

In the movie you can see some of the animal tracks I have found on the dirt roads around my house. See if you can identify some of them with the handout I provided. You can stop the video anytime and take a closer look. Tomorrow I will reveal who left those tracks. Good luck!